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Wider trailers could be allowed in Michigan

LANSING – Michigan residents would be allowed to haul wider trailers under legislation on its way to the governor, Sen. Ron Jelinek, R-Three Oaks, announced today.

Jelinek's Senate Bill 736 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to add "trailer and semitrailer" to the list of motor vehicles that cannot exceed an outside body width of 102 inches.

Current Michigan law already allows buses, trailer coaches, truck campers and motor homes to be up to 102 inches wide, but limits all other trailers to 96 inches.

"Expanding the width of trailers will help protect Michigan's tourist industry, since most snowmobile and Jet Ski trailers are wider than 96 inches," Jelinek said. "Currently, many residents pull their trailers not realizing they are over the limit. This is a common sense bill to keep residents in compliance with the law."

In addition, current law also provides for a width of 108 inches for motor vehicles hauling certain loads such as concrete pipe, agricultural products, unprocessed logs, pulpwood or wood bolts.

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